

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 2 has been canceled. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on U.S. Patent no. 6,160,374 of Hayes et al. ("Hayes"). However, Hayes does not disclose or suggest the invention as claimed. The claimed invention provides, *inter alia*, that: 1) the inductor of the resonance circuit is one of a pair of inductors that form an inductive power transformer, and 2) the resonance circuit has a natural resonant frequency approximately equal to the frequency of the power source. Each of Applicant's independent claims includes essentially these limitations. Hayes does discuss the use of series and parallel tank circuits and natural resonant frequency in conjunction with an inductive charging circuit, however, Hayes fails to disclose or suggest these features.

As to the first aspect, note that in Hayes the series tank circuit 15 on the primary side of the charging circuit is made up of inductor 15a and capacitor 15b. Neither of those elements is the primary inductor of transformer 28. This is in contrast with Applicant's claimed invention, in which the primary inductor of the power transformer is actually *part of the resonance circuit*. Claim 1, for example, specifies, "a secondary inductor to receive power transmitted *from the primary inductor by induction . . .*" (emphasis added).

Second, even assuming *arguendo* one were to consider the "resonance circuit" of Applicant's claims to read on the combination of capacitor 15b and the primary coil of transformer 28 in Hayes, Hayes still would not read on the claimed invention. That is

because Hayes' only discussion of resonant frequency specifically states that the frequency of the source is *above* the natural resonant frequency of both the series and parallel tank circuits (col. 1, lines 52-54 and col. 3, lines 5-9), in contrast with Applicant's claims, which require that the frequency of the source is *substantially equal* to the natural resonant frequency of the resonance circuit.

For each of these independent reasons, therefore, the claimed invention is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Hayes.

Dependent Claims

In view of the above remarks, a specific discussion of the dependent claims is considered to be unnecessary. Therefore, Applicants' silence regarding any dependent claim is not to be interpreted as agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejection of such claim or as waiving any argument regarding that claim.

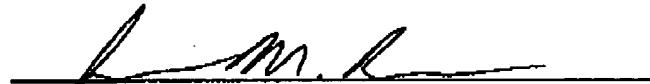
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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